



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CITY OFFERS FREE POWER WASHER
WORKSHOPS**

1970 B Street -- October 07, 2003 - San Diego, CA... For many businesses, cleaning the sidewalk in front of their establishment and washing the debris down the storm drain is among the first activities of a normal day. What businesses may not know is that while the City of San Diego's Municipal Code §43.03, Storm Water Management and Discharge Control has not changed since 2001, the City's enforcement posture has.

This means that effective January 1, 2004 all runoff from sidewalk washing and related activities must be captured and disposed of properly – not washed down the drain. The reason for a change is simple.

"We have found that placing filters over storm drains to catch debris before water goes in helps, but it's not sufficient enough to protect our waterways," said Antonius Evans, Code Compliance Supervisor for the City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program. "Only by following the 3 C's - fully controlling, containing and capturing water – will businesses ensure that San Diego's beaches, bays and waterways are protected from urban activities."

Informing affected businesses and cleaning service providers about the upcoming change is part of an outreach effort being initiated by the City. "We want to ensure that businesses owners, commercial property owners and power wash service providers who clean sidewalks know about these changes in City enforcement and how to comply," said Karen Henry, Deputy Director of the City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program.

"That's why we are inviting these individuals to attend one of the four informational workshops being offered."

Each hour-long workshop will take place at the General Services building, located at 1970 B Street. Workshops will take place on:

October 21, from 3:00 - 4:00 pm

October 23, from 4:00 - 5:00 pm

October 28, from 3:00 - 4:00 pm

November 4, from 4:00 - 5:00 pm

City staff will provide information about the Storm Water Management and Discharge Control Ordinance, City enforcement policies, answer your questions, provide reference materials and give a demonstration of recapture equipment.

Call the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program at (619) 525-8647 if you have any questions or to RSVP for one of the informational workshop dates listed above. Be sure to specify which date you plan to attend and leave your name, number and e-mail address in order to receive confirmation.

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